

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Applicant requests that the specification be amended as follows:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 3 with the following paragraph:

One example of a result of design based on the conventional designing method is shown in FIG. 4. At first, the conventional designing method will be discussed with reference to FIG. 4. In FIG. 4, the reference sign d1 denotes a network range to be objective for the designing method, which will be referred to as objective network. The reference signs n1 to ~~n7~~ n6 identify nodes, and u1 to u4 identify networks other than design objective range. Communication traffic between these networks flows in and out the objective network. Hereinafter, the networks other than object will be referred to as user network.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 15 with the following paragraph:

In the conventional designing method, fixed paths have to be set between respective ingress nodes and egress nodes. For example, paths are designed by determining each traffic amount that ~~<n2, n7>~~ <n3, n6> is 1 Mb/s, ~~<n2, n6>~~ <n1, n5> is 2 Mb/s, ~~<n1, n7>~~ <n1, n6> is 1 Mb/s, ~~<n1, n6>~~ <n1, n5> is 1 Mb/s. Here, paths are expressed by p1 to p4. An example where paths as shown in FIG. 4 are designed by the conventional design method, is shown.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 21 with the following paragraph:

In FIG. 3, the reference sign d1 represents a network range to be object in the designing method. This will be referred to as objective network. The reference signs n1 to ~~n7~~ n6 represent nodes. The reference signs u1 to u4 represent network other than design object. Communication

traffic between these networks flows in and out the object network. The network other than the object network will be referred to as user network. For example, the reference signs u1 to u4 represent different station of the user network.